

NEWS RELEASE

Pacific Northwest Region - Colville National Forest
765 S. Main Street, Colville, WA 99114, www.fs.usda.gov/colville

Contact: Franklin Pemberton, 509.684.7177

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South End Project Available for Review

Colville, WA...Colville National Forest officials announced today that the Draft Decision Notice for the South End Project and Forest Plan Amendment Environmental Assessment (EA) is now available for public review.

The Draft Decision Notice is available on the Colville National Forest Website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/colville/landmanagement/projects> This starts the 45 day public review and administrative objection period. If you would like to receive a compact disc or paper copy of the documents, please contact Marcy Rumelhart at mrumelhart@fs.fed.us or 509-446-7563.

The Draft Decision Notice describes the selected alternative (Alternative 3) and provides the rationale of why the Forest Service selected this alternative. The chosen alternative includes designation of new off-highway vehicle routes, restoration of campsites currently causing resource damage, development of parking areas, and an adjustment of the boundaries of management areas designated MA-1, MA-5, and MA-6 in the Colville National Forest Plan. The project area includes all or parts of: Ruby, Cusick, Tacoma, Twelvemile, Monaghan, Indian, Addy, Leslie, Bayley, Chewelah, Thomason, Cottonwood, Smalle, Winchester, and Calispell Creek drainages on the Colville National Forest northwest of Newport, WA.

For more information on the administrative objection period please see the Project-Level Pre-decisional Administrative Review Process document at:
http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5442113.pdf

For more information on the South End Project, please contact either:
Rodney Smoldon, District Ranger at rsmoldon@fs.fed.us, 509-738-7700 or Gayne Sears, District Ranger at gsears@fs.fed.us, 509-447-7300.

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The mission of the US Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. Recreational activities on our lands contribute \$14.5 billion annually to the U.S. economy. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world.



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